

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing prior to examination of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, the claims have been rewritten to eliminate multiple dependencies and to add claims directed to preferred embodiments of the invention. Support for the new claims may be found at the very least in the original claims. No new matter has been added.

Early and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions relating to this amendment or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney by telephone at (508) 339-3684 so that prosecution may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 3, 2001

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Mucoadhesive polymers, the use thereof and a production method therefor.

*AY* Mucoadhesive polymers assembled of not more than 10 different monomers and comprising at least one non-terminal thiol group, as well as drugs containing these polymers are described.

**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated April 20, 2001**

**Marked-up Claim 1**

1. (Amended) A mucoadhesive polymer [, characterized in that
  - it is assembled of] comprising not more than 10 different monomers and
  - [● comprises] at least one non-terminal thiol group.